

P L A N

OF THE

D I S P E N S A R Y

F O R

GENERAL INOCULATION,

Instituted in the year, 1775.



I N T R O D U C T I O N

AS the strength of a nation is, a great measure, proportionate to the number of its inhabitants, every attempt to encrease population, by preserving life, has a just claim to regard both of Patriotism and Humanity.

One of the chief causes of depopulation among the human species (particularly in large towns) is the Smallpox, which, in the course of the last fifty years, as appears by the bills of mortality, has swept away one hundred and seven thousand one hundred and fifty of the Inhabitants of this Metropolis.

To disarm this disease of its malignant powers,—to promote the e

ease of mankind—and diminish the
 am of human misery, Inoculation
 seems providentially to have been intro-
 duced.

To shew, by a detail of particular
 facts, the fitness of Inoculation for
 answering these valuable ends, would,
 at this period of time, and in this
 country especially, where the utility of
 it has been so long experienced, be alto-
 gether superfluous.

It is a truth universally admitted,
 that not more than one out of five
 hundred die of the inoculated Small-
 pox : if therefore the one hundred and
 seven thousand one hundred and fifty
 above mentioned had received the disease,
 of which they fell victims, by Inocula-
 tion, the number of lives which would
 have been thereby preserved, together
 with the probable encrease from them,
 must have made a very considerable ad-
 dition to the strength of the state.

It is further to be observed in favour
 of the inoculated Small-pox, that the

danger of spreading the infection be it is obviously so much less than in the natural, that it has even been doubted by some eminent Physicians, whether it ever propagates the Contagion unless by contact. It is therefore apparent, that as Inoculation gains ground the natural Small-pox will be less frequent, 'till at length, like the Leprosy of the Jews and some other diseases, it may possibly be known only by name.

But to a very useful, and the most numerous part of the community, the advantages resulting from this happy discovery, have hitherto in a great measure been lost.

An Hospital has indeed been opened for Inoculating the poor, but the number of patients admitted into this receptacle, supposing it to have been constantly filled, must have borne so small a proportion to the number of objects for whose benefit it was instituted, that no perceptible diminution of the mortality occasioned by the

atural Small-pox, could have been reasonably expected from it :

To which may be added, That, by the regulations of this Hospital, all persons under seven years of age being excluded, a very numerous class of objects remains still unprovided for, and that too, at a period when the natural Small-pox generally commits its greatest ravages.

But if Hospitals were established sufficient for the reception of all the poor in London, who might choose to be inoculated, the plan would nevertheless be ineligible.

One great source of the present success in treating the Small-pox, is a proper exposure to cold air. To extend this sovereign remedy to infants a greater number of nurses is necessary than is compatible with the economy of an Hospital.

Many among the lower orders

strangers to the tender feelings of humanity. They might wish their infant offspring to receive the benefit of Inoculation, and yet not be willing to commit them to the alien care of an hospital nurse. They might desire the same benefit for themselves, but the necessary separation from their families would for ever exclude them from it.

The impurity of the air is likewise another objection against the establishment of Hospitals. Wherever a number of people are collected together, the air will necessarily be impure; and putrid contagion, if once produced, will unavoidably spread itself.

To obviate these and other objections, and to render the practice of Inoculation more general; it has been thought expedient to establish a Dispensary for Inoculating the poor, and furnishing them with the medicines which may be requisite.

R E G U L A T I O N S.

AS it is proposed to extend this plan to every part of the metropolis, patients residing in the City and Liberties of London; the City and Liberties of Westminster; the buildings adjacent to Oxford-street and Holborn; the streets on the north and east-sides of the City of London; and those on the south-side of the river, shall be attended by a physician appointed to each of these districts.

2. A physician shall attend at the Dispensary from ten to twelve every morning.

3. The Inoculation of the patients, and any operations which may afterwards be necessary, shall be performed by three surgeons of the Charity; one of whom shall attend every day at the Dispensary from ten to twelve in the

4. An apothecary shall constantly reside at the Dispensary to compound and deliver the medicines prescribed by the physicians.

5. The patients shall be admitted by a letter of recommendation from a Governor :

6. They shall receive the Infection at the Dispensary, and afterwards be attended at their own habitations as occasion may require.

7. No person shall be Inoculated until declared a fit subject for that purpose by one of the physicians.

8. A general meeting of the Governors shall be held annually on the first Friday in January, April, July and October seven of whom shall constitute a board.

9. The officers of this Institution together with twenty Governors chosen at the first quarterly-meeting in every year, shall be a committee for transact-

10. This committee shall meet on the last Friday in every month, and be open to every Governor who may please to attend.

11. Annual Subscribers of one guinea shall be Governors of this Institution during the continuance of their subscriptions, and be intitled to have twelve patients in the year upon the Dispensary-books; and such as subscribe a larger sum shall have a right to send a proportionate number of patients.

12. A benefaction of ten guineas shall constitute the donor a Governor for life, with the privilege of having twenty patients in the year, on the Dispensary-books.

13. Nobility, Members of Parliament, Ladies, and Governors for life, may vote at all elections by proxy.

N. B. Gentlemen of the medical faculty, shall be supplied gratis with matter for Inoculation every day at the hours of attendance.

S U B S C R I P T I O N S

are received by

Sir CHARLES RAYMOND and Co
Birchin-lane.

Messrs ARCHER, BYDE, and Co
White-hart-court, Lombard-street.

Messrs DRUMMONDS, Charing-cross

Messrs FULLER and Son, Lombard
street; and by the

Officers of the Institution.

TO such as are inclined to become benefactors by will, the following form of a legacy is recommended :

Item, *I give and bequeath unto A. B. and C. D. the sum of*
to be raised and paid by and out of my personal estate and effects, which by law I may or can charge with the payment thereof, upon trust, and to the intent, that they, or either of them, do pay the same to the Treasurer (for the time being) of a charity, called or known by the name of THE DISPENSARY FOR GENERAL INOCULATION instituted in the year 1775, which said sum I desire may be applied towards carrying on the benevolent designs of the said charity.

N. B. Giving land, or money, or stock, by will, to be laid out in the purchase of any estate for charitable

ses, will be void by the statute of Mortmain; but money or stock may be given by will without being directed to be laid out.

OFFICERS of this INSTITUTION

VICE PRESIDENTS.

Sir Charles Raymond, Bart.

Sir Robert Barker.

Jacob Wilkinson, Esq.

Jonas Hanway, Esq.

TREASURER.

James Bogle French, Esq.

PHYSICIAN.

John Watkinson, M. D.

CONSULTING PHYSICIANS.

James Sims, M. D.

John Coakley Lettsom, M. D. F. R. S.

SURGEONS.

Mr. John Crawford.

Mr. Thomas Ogle.

Mr.

SECRETARY.

Mr. Robert Smith

Apothecary.

Mr. Henry Fearon.

